NOTICE: ANNOUNCEMENT OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT PERMIT

PERMIT NO.: WA-000056-6

APPLICANT: SNOKIST GROWERS

2506 TERRACE HEIGHTS ROAD

YAKIMA, WA 98901

has applied for renewal of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. WA-000056-6 for the Terrace Heights Cannery in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 90.48 Revised Code of Washington (RCW), Chapter 173-220 Washington Administrative Code (WAC), and the Federal Clean Water Act.

Following evaluation of the application and other available information, a draft permit has been developed which would allow the discharge of treated fruit cannery wastewater of an average of 1 million gallons per day to the Yakima River at River Mile 113 from its facility located at 2506 Terrace Heights Road, Yakima, Washington. All discharges to be in compliance with the Department of Ecology's Water Quality Standards for a permit to be issued. A tentative determination has been made to reissue this permit based on the effluent limitations and special permit conditions that will prevent and control pollution. A final determination will not be made until all timely comments received in response to this notice have been evaluated.

PUBLIC COMMENT AND INFORMATION

The draft permit and fact sheet may be viewed at the Department of Ecology (Department) website: http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/permits/central_permits.html. The application, fact sheet, proposed permit, and other related documents are also available at the Department's Central Regional Office for inspection and copying between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., weekdays. To obtain a copy or to arrange to view copies at the Central Regional Office, please call Cindy Huwe at 509/457-7105, e-mail chuw461@ecy.wa.gov, or write to the address below.

Interested persons are invited to submit written comments regarding the proposed permit. All comments must be submitted by November 14, 2005 (within 30 days of the final date of publication of this notice) to be considered for the final determination. Comments should be sent to: Department of Ecology, Central Regional Office, 15 West Yakima Avenue, Suite 200, Yakima, WA 98902, Attention: Cindy Huwe. E-mail comments should be sent to Cindy Huwe at chuw461@ecy.wa.gov.

Any interested party may request a public hearing on the proposed permit within 30 days of the publication date of this notice. The request for a hearing shall state the interest of the party and the reasons why a hearing is necessary. The request should be sent to the above address. The Department will hold a hearing if it determines that there is significant public interest. If a hearing is to be held, public notice will be published at least 30 days in advance of the hearing date. Any party responding to this notice with comments will be mailed a copy of a hearing public notice. Please bring this public notice to the attention of persons who you know would be interested in this matter. The Department is an equal opportunity agency. If you have a special accommodation needs, please contact Cindy Huwe at 509/457-7105 or TTY (for the speech and hearing impaired) at 1-800-833-6388.

Publication date of this Notice is October 14, 2005.